U.S. Department of Transportation

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Office of the Administrator

400 - Seventh St., SW Washington, DC 20590

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**EDITORS & CORRESPONDENTS:** 

FMCSA Announces New On-Line Feature To Register

The U.S. Department of Transportation's (USDOT) Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, (FMCSA) starting September 27, has initiated a new electronic, consumer-friendly process, that allows interstate motor carriers applying on-line for a USDOT number, to receive their individual number instantly. This latest registration feature in FMCSA e-government streamlines a process that previously took up to four weeks to complete. This new registration process complements an e-government function begun earlier this year that allows motor carriers to update their registration information on-line.

All motor carriers operating in interstate or foreign commerce are required to file the MCS-150 before beginning operation. In addition, the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999 requires that registration information be updated every two years. Carriers will need a valid Visa or MasterCard to act as a digital signature when applying for a USDOT number and updating electronically. The Visa or MasterCard is used only for digital signature purposes, and there is no charge for filling out the application on-line. Verification of the card will place the cardholder's name on the MCS-150 as the signature. Digital signatures are as legally binding as actual signatures. A notification letter will be mailed to the carrier confirming the USDOT number.

Users should click on <a href="http://www.safersys.org">http://www.safersys.org</a> to electronically register, add, or update company information. Under the heading, <a href="Public Business Services">Public Business Services</a>, click on the arrow, and then click on <a href="FMCSA Registration">FMCSA Registration</a>. Select the "online registration" that applies to your carrier operation and follow the instructions. It's that easy.

Sincerely,

Julie Anna Cirillo Chief Safety Officer